

WOLFE



Mr. PRINCE'S
S E R M O N
On the taking of
CAPE-BRETON.



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*Extraordinary Events the Doings of God, and
marvellous in pious Eyes.*

Illustrated

In a

S E R M O N

At the

South Church in Boston, N. E.

On the

GENERAL THANKSGIVING,

Thursday, July 18. 1745.

Occasion'd

By taking the City of *Louisbourg* on the Isle of
Cape-Breton, by *New-England* Soldiers, assisted
by a *British* Squadron.

The SECOND EDITION in *N. E.* with some Additions.

By THOMAS PRINCE, M. A.

And a Pastor of the said Church.

Pfal. xcvi. 1, 2, *O sing unto the LORD a new Song, for He
hath done marvellous Things: His right Hand, and his holy
Arm hath gotten him the Victory: The LORD hath made
known his Salvation, his Righteousness hath he openly shewed
in the Sight of the Heathen.*

B O S T O N :

Printed for D. HENCHMAN in Cornhil. 1747.

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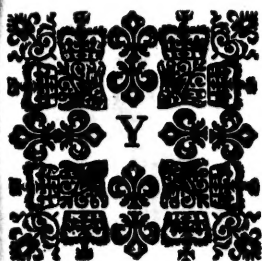
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TO HIS EXCELLENCY

William Shirley, Esq;

Captain General and Governour
in Chief, in and over His MA-
JESTY'S Province of the *Massa-
chusetts-Bay* in *New-England*,
and Vice Admiral of the same :



O U R *Excellency*
being, under the DI-
VINE CONDUCT, the
principal *Former* and
Promoter of the prof-
perous *Expedition* to *Cape-Breton*;
of

DEDICATION.

of such vast Importance to the Trade, Wealth, and Power of *Great-Britain*, as well as Safety of Her *American Colonies*; and so much to the Glory wherewith GOD has crown'd His MAJESTY's happy Reign: The following SERMON is, in Gratitude and Justice, with all Submission, DEDICATED--

By

Your EXCELLENCY's

Most obliged,

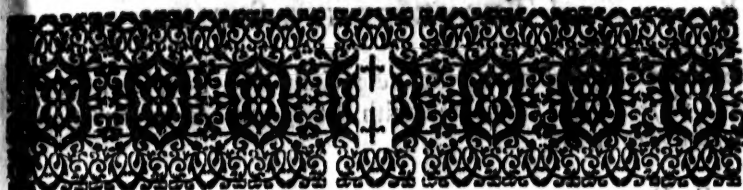
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Humble Servant,

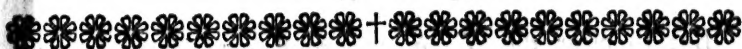
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THANKSGIVING S E R M O N.



P S A L. cxviii. 23.

This is the LORD's Doing ! It is marvellous in our Eyes !

WITHOUT any Reference to the prime and particular View of the Words ; I shall now only observe and briefly clear the *General Truth* represented in them, and then apply it to the *Special Occasion* of the joyous Solemnity of the present Day.

For, the *General Truth* exhibited in the *Text* is this—that some extraordinary Events, without being properly term'd miraculous, have such lively Characters of their being the Doings of GOD, as they are evidently so to unprejudic'd and careful Observers, and appear marvellous in their pious Eyes.

By *some extraordinary Events* ; I mean, some remarkable Ones in the natural and moral World, even in the present Ages as well as the former, which greatly affect humane Societies

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cieties or particular Persons, especially the People of GOD; and *these Events* connected with the various *Means* and *Causes* leading to them.

By Events *not properly term'd miraculous*; I mean, when GOD does *not appear* to work on his Creatures in a Manner *contrary* to the *usual Ways* of his Working, *singly* in themselves consider'd.

And by their having *such lively Characters of their being the Doings of GOD*, as they are *evidently so to unprejudic'd and careful Observers*; I mean, these Characters are distinguishingly bright and legible to such qualified Persons: Or if they are inadvertent, or under a Prejudice; they are not like to see them to be the Doings of GOD, much less admire them in a pious Manner, or yield him the Glory of them. See *Psal.* lxiv. 9, 10. cvii. 42, 43. xcii. 4,—6.

But to clear this *Truth*, we must consider these *three General Heads*, as the Time allows—

1. In what *Manner* may the sovereign GOD be said to *operate usually* among his Creatures.
2. When have *his providential Operations* such lively Characters of their being *his Doings*.
3. The *pious Admirations* they should raise up in us, and which they happily raise if we are duely disposed.

I. In what *Manner* may the sovereign GOD be said to *operate usually* among his Creatures.

And here we must needs observe; that as there are *three Sorts of Creatures or created Substances*, viz. *Corporeal, Spiritual, and Compos'd of Both*; so there is a different Sort of Operation of GOD upon and among them.

1. In his Operation on *meerly corporeal or material Substances* ---He not only by his continual Influence, preserves them in their Being, Nature or essential Properties of *Solidity, Extension, &c.* which he has been pleas'd to give them; but to this Influence he also seems to add his further *usual Operation* in these *three different Manners*, viz.

(1) In

(1) In continually causing all material Substances to incline towards each other, in regular Proportions to their Quantities and Distances: Which is commonly called the Law or Power of *Attraction* or *Gravity*: Without which there wou'd be no Rain nor Dew, nor flowing of Rivers, nor Pressure of Air into the Lungs of Animals; and if withheld, every breathing Creature wou'd immediately die: On which Account, as well as others, the *Apostle* justly says of God in *Act* xvii. 25, 27. *He giveth Life and Breath to all; and in Him we live and move, and have our Being*: For in the Pressure of Gravity, this Omnipresent AGENT really presses every Breath into us.

(2) When they come to a certain Nearness, he by a contrary Operation moves them, in regular Proportions also, to fly off: Which is commonly called the Law or Power of *Repulsion*: Without which all material Substances on Earth wou'd soon unite in one solid Body.

(3) When they are forced within a certain Nearness, he by a different Operation makes them move and join together in certain Degrees of Power: Which is commonly called the Law or Power of *Cohesion*: Without which there would be no such Thing as Union or Coherence in material Substances.

And these are called the three prime and general Laws of Nature in the material World; whereby he chiefly appears to govern it. But yet it is most evident, that he confines not himself to these: For he plainly operates in divers other Manners on the Planets, Comets, Rays of Light; as also in the Cases of *Electricity*, *Magnetism*, *Cold*, *Heat*, &c. Which are so many various Ways of his Operation, needful for the Schemes of Providence, and the blessing and chastizing of the World.

And in the different Proportions of all the various Powers and Actions abovementioned, there is no Doubt amazing Wisdom; which I leave the Learned, of Leisure, to consider.

To which we must likewise add, that for the perfect Government of all Things here below, in a due Accommodation between the material and the moral World; for the latter of which the former is made, preserv'd and govern'd;—It is

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doubtless needful, that the absolutely sovereign, wise and omnipresent Lord, Proprietor, and Ruler of all, should reserve himself the just Liberty, either *mediately* by brutal Animals, Men or Angels; or where their Powers are insufficient to answer his wise Designs, by his *immediate* Influence, (which tho' unseen by Men may be seen by Angels,) to move and order all material Substances this way or the other, as He sees best.

And it seems absurd to suppose, that the infinite God, who is absolute and all-original Life and Power, should constantly afford to *Angels* and *Men*, yea to the most minute *Animalcula*, the Power of moving material Substances even contrary to the above-mentioned Laws of Nature every Moment; yea that he should be continually making Millions of Animals with such a Power as this; and yet confine himself from doing as much as they, by his *immediate* Power. Thus for Instance, he now affords me by a single Breath the Power of moving Millions of Atoms upwards against the Laws of Gravity: And can we imagine, that this great and universal AGENT has confin'd himself from doing as much upon all Occasions, by his *immediate* tho' *secret* Influence? Or even infinitely more than this. As in raising, turning, allaying Winds and Seas, and numberless other Operations, where other Powers, inferiour to his are insufficient to compass his Designs.

So, in Scripture, the vast Varieties of Winds and Seas, of Clouds and Vapours, Snow, Fire, Hail and Rain, Cold and Heat, and other material Substances, are represented as continually directed by him, to fulfill his Pleasure. See *Job*, xxxvi, xxxvii, xxxviii, *Psal.* lxx, cxlvii, cxlviii, &c.

Nor may this be accounted *properly miraculous*. For 'twould be strange indeed that the huge *Leviathan* should by a Power derived from Him, throw up a Cloud of Water into the Air; or even the most minute *Animalculum*, by the Pad of a Fin, in a Moment raise up Millions of watery Particles against the Laws of Gravity, without a Miracle. And yet for the great God to raise up a single Atom by his *immediate* Power, should be esteemed a Miracle. And as long as these are the *usual*, tho' the *immediate* Operations of God, they are no more miraculous, than his *immediate* Impression of Gravity on material Substances, or on any primary Substance whereby the Impression may be made on others.

2. In

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2. In his Operation on Substances *purely spiritual*--He not only by his continual Influence preserves them in their distinguishing Existence, Nature or essential Properties of *Life*, and Powers of *Perceiving*, *Thinking*, *voluntary Motion*, &c, He has been pleas'd to give them ; but to this Influence He also seems to add his further *usual* Operations in these *three* Ways.

(1) By *producing* and continuing secret, inward *Bents* or *Dispositions* in them ; as the holy Bents of holy Angels, and holy Souls departed, &c.

(2) By *rising* and continuing *Ideas* in their Imaginations, Memories and Understandings ; as also impressing them with various Perceptions of *Delight* or *Trouble* : Whereby he chiefly seems to rule the *moral* World. So he continually gives the Millions of holy Angels his Directions : And they are constantly attending to him ; and in every Part of the Universe accomplishing his Orders. And so he makes the holy Angels happy with Perceptions of pure Delight ; and the sinful Angels wretched with Perceptions of Anxiety.

(3) By *awakening*, *sharpening*, *strengthening*, *guiding* their *intellectual Powers*, to conceive and penetrate, compare, distinguish and judge of Things, and contrive and form their Schemes ; and by *exciting* their Pursuits : Whereby he secretly and wonderfully governs in the midst of numberless Contingencies among the Creatures. And then,

3. With Respect to Creatures *Compos'd* of Substances both *Corporeal* and *Spiritual*, as *brutal Animals* and *Men* ; his Operations on them may be of all the various Kinds together, according to their several Natures and Capacities, we have in brief described ; besides *uniting* them, *keeping* them *united*, and some peculiar Impressions of *Pleasure*, *Pain*, &c, suitable to their mysterious *Union*.

And it seems highly reasonable to think, that where the Powers of *inferiour* Creatures suffice not to accomplish his Designs, he employs the *higher*, or *both* together : And where they are all insufficient, He puts forth *his Power above* them ; makes them instrumental as far as may be, and then acts by *his own superiour* Influence.

As to *brutal Animals*---they no doubt receive their various *Instincts* from him : And he may by *Angels* often give them *Idæas* and rule them.

And as to *Men*---He no doubt inspires their various *Geniuses* ; As also frequently, if not continually, uses *Angels*, the *Evil* by Permission, the *Holy* by Command, to suggest *Idæas* to them ; and then uses *them* to suggest *Idæas* to *one another* : Which are instrumental Causes under his permissive, controuling and directive Influence, of numberless Passions, Appetites, Consultations, Projects, Resolutions, Actions and Events. He awakens, sharpens, strengthens, guides the intellectual Powers of *Men* : And where the Powers of *Angels* are insufficient to give compleat *Idæas* to perform his Schemes ; He may *secretly* by his *immediate* Operation, utterly unknown to *Men*, suggest innumerable *Idæas* in them ; and therewith infuse his exciting Influence of Zeal, Activity, Courage and Resolution to fulfil his Councils,

Nor may the unknown *Suggestions* of good *Angels* be accounted *proper Inspirations* ; any more than the Suggestions of *Satan* when he raises up in our Minds *Idæas* of Scriptures, as he did in the human Mind of CHRIST : Or when one *Man* by Signs suggests *Idæas* to others, and excites their Courage. Nor are the *Idæas* and *Excitations* receiv'd from GOD, either *mediately* by *Men* or *Angels*, or *immediately* by Himself, *proper Inspirations* : Any more than his infusing Millions of Spirits every Moment into new Seeds or Embrios of Animals, making them alive and active ; or infusing into them various *Instincts* or *Geniuses* ; or impressing them with Pleasures, Pains, &c.

For, by *Inspiration* I mean the *certain Revelation* he has been pleas'd to give of *Himself*, and of his *Will*, and of Things past and to come, by CHRIST and his Prophets and Apostles of old, put into the BIBLE and confirm'd by Miracles, as a *definitive Rule* of Faith, Worship, moral and religious Conduct. Every Kind of *Idæa* and *Excitation* or *Propension* in us, whether arising meerly from our own Minds, or from evil or good Men and Ministers, or from evil or good Angels, or even immediately from GOD himself, are therefore all to be brought to this only inspired Rule, and tried thereby ; for which End it was inspired and confirmed. And the *true Origin* of our *Idæas*

Ideas and Excitations is kept concealed from us, (without any *internal Criterion* to judge from whence they come, as the *Prophets* had of old) that by this known *divine Rule* we might forever try them. In which Trials, are carefully to use our intellectual Powers : And being aware that in the midst of all we need the Help of GOD, both in understanding the Rule and in the Application of it ; to Him we must humbly and ever repair in CHRIST and seek for Guidance.

For *Illustration*---I might easily bring a Multitude of *Scriptures* ; but the Time would fail me. I shall only cite to *Deut.* xxxii. 1 *Sam.* ii. 2 *Sam.* xxii. 1 *Chron.* xxix. *Job.* v. xii. xxxii.---xxxv. *Psal.* xxxiv. xlvii. ciii. civ. cvii. and cxiii. *Isai.* xxviii and xlv. *Dan.* ii and iv. *Joel* i. and ii. *Mat.* x. 29, 30. *Acts* xvii. 24,---28.

In short, all Nature, both inanimate and animate, both humane and angelical, is full of GOD ; full of his perpetual, moving, guiding and over-ruling Influence ; and as the Apostle perfectly expresses it, *Eph.* i. 11. *Who worketh all Things according to the Council of his own Will.*

But then I may not omit to observe, that agreeable to *Scripture-Revelation*, THE ETERNAL WORD or SON of GOD, who with the eternal FATHER & SPIRIT created all Things ; in a perfect Union with those divine Persons, He also upholds and rules the World from the *Time he made it* : But from the *Fall*, He rules it also in the special Form of a MEDIATOR : And upon the Exaltation of his *human Nature* to Heaven, it is advanced to a wondrous Participation with his DIVINE PERSON, in his supreme Dignity, transcendent Glory and universal Empire. See *John* i. *Eph.* i. *Col.* i. *Heb.* i, &c.

And thus have we shewn in what *Manner* may the sovereign GOD be said to *operate usually* among his Creatures.

We now come more briefly to consider,

II. When have his *providential Operations* such lively Characters of their being his *Doings*, as they are evidently so to unprejudic'd and careful Observers.

Even

Even the common Operations in the *merely material World*, the more we search them, the more they appear to be the Doings of GOD. But there is such a natural Atheism, Blindness, and Prejudice in us, as we are averse to see it, and prone to ascribe them to *Nature only*, or any Thing else than his ever acting Influence. A terrible Storm of Thunder and Lightning, or a more fearful Earthquake, or some extraordinary Danger or other, seems needful to bring us to see his Operations in *Nature*.

And so it is likewise in his *mixt Operations of Providence*. When there is only a Circle of common Occurrences, we are apt to imagine, there is only a Course of Nature, blended with the common Powers, Arts, Contrivances and Actions of Men; and the Doings of GOD appear not in them. We have therefore need of some extraordinary Work of GOD in Providence, to awaken our Minds and more evidently show his Doings. And this he graciously condescends to give us in the *following Cases*.

1. When in *Affairs of vast Importance*, there is a wonderful continued *Train* and timely *Coincidence* of innumerable *Varieties of Means*, both in the *material* and *moral World* together, without our Power and beyond our Prospect; all conspiring to some *great Event*, exceeding happy in its present Influence and future Tendency.

For tho' in such extraordinary Works of GOD as these, the *several Parts* consider'd *singly*, are his *usual Operations* and don't affect with Wonder, or strike our Minds with so clear and strong an Evidence of their being *his Doings*: Yet to see them all so perfectly adjusted, as to make up *One, great, wise, curious and consistent Scheme*, to accomplish an *Event of vast Importance*; --- This yields sufficient Evidence of wise Design and superiour Management in HIM, who has all the Powers of Nature, Men, Elements and Angels in his Hands, and over-rules them all to fulfil his Councils.

2. This yet appears with a stronger Evidence, and even still more wonderful; when among a great Number of surprising and important *Incidents*, there are many so *momentuous* and

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and critical, that if any one had not fallen precisely in it's
special Place and Juncture, there would have been exceeding
great Imbarraiments and Hindrances: And many others so
essential, that if all and every one had not come in exactly as
they did; the great Event had fail'd; and the main Scheme
with all its vast and curious Apparatus totally miscarried.

3. When in *exceeding difficult, perplext and dangerous Cases*
which look almost *desperate*, and much more which seem in
a Manner *lost*, there opens at once a *great Deliverance*, beyond
our Power and Thought: And much more still, when the
Deliverance opens with *Success*, and the very *Means* of our
Diffuses and Danger are made subservient to our Prosperity
and greater Safety.

4. and lastly, When in this Conjunction, the sovereign
God is more than usually acknowledged; looked to and
trusted in; an *extraordinary Spirit of Prayer* is raised up in
many; and all these surprizing Incidents and Means, with all
our wonderful Salvations, Success and Happiness, come on in
punctual Answers to *many fervent and fiducial Addresses* to Him.
I might mention *other Cases* and illustrate *these*; but the
Hour would fail me. And to make the larger Room for the
Application, we must be also short on our.

III. General Head; which is to represent the *pious Admira-
tion* which these extraordinary Appearances and Works of God
should raise up in us, and which they happily raise if we are
duly disposed. *Admiration* is one of the sublimest Actions of a created Spi-
rit. It is the rising up of the Mind in a respectful View of
Something it sees and owns to be superiour to it. And when
it rises to the reverent View of God, it rises to the highest
and most worthy Object, and pays him some of the Honour
in the highest Measure eternally due to his transcendent Ex-
cellencies and Operations. And as this allwise CREATOR has made us capable of
this noble *Action*, and in our very *Make* infused a *Disposition*
to

to it on extraordinary Appearances; he therefore frequently does extraordinary Things, in Providence, to awake our Attention and excite our Wonder; to give us more open Displays of his supreme Wisdom, Power and Government, and raise our due and reverent Admirations of him.

In the heavenly World; from the inexhaustible Source of his infinite Perfections, no doubt there now are, and will be eternally surprizing Displays of his Glories, to the perpetual and entertaining Wonder of the happy Inhabitants. But in these lower Regions we frequently need them, he frequently gives them. And if we were as observant as *Eliphaz*, we should find abundant Cause to cry out in Admiration of God as He, Job v. 9. *Who does great Things and unsearchable, marvellous Things without Number.*

But when the sovereign God is pleas'd, in distinguishing Favour to us, to go out of his common Course, and show a vast Contrivance, and over-rule a Multitude of all Kinds of Causes, making them conspire to some great and happy Event, or do something extraordinary for our Salvation and vast Advantage; --- Then he more highly obliges us, and more loudly calls us to consider his wondrous Works; to see Him; i. e. his superiour Hand and Excellencies in them, and pay our due and distinguishing Admirations to him.

Then we should carefully lay aside every Prejudice: And our obliged Souls should open every Beam of Light and Evidence of the Operation and Care of God in all the Parts of the Providence, and forming them all into an admirable System. We should enlarge our Views to see the vast Importance of his wondrous Works, both to Ourselves and Others, in all it's Branches: And attentively mind the various Springs and Incidents in the Run of the Whole, and how they all surprizingly conspire to a prosperous Issue. Nor yet---content with the bare viewing of these; but our grateful Minds should see the Wisdom, Power, Justice, Holiness, Truth and Goodness of God illustrious in them; and then consider how He should thus be working for Us, while we were unworthy of the least of his Mercies. Lastly in our admiring Views of the whole Work of God, our Souls should rise into the highest

est reverent Admiration of Him; and then break out in most thankful Praise, as the pious Psalmist---*It is the LORD's Doing! It is marvellous in our Eyes!*

And as all this is clearly most due to GOD on such Appearances, it is the lively *Bent* and *Practice* of unfeigned *Piety*.

But we must hasten on to APPLY these Things, in Pursuance of our first Design, to the great and extraordinary Occasion of this happy Solemnity.

For, the sovereign GOD, who ruleth by his Power for ever, and does what he pleases among the Sons of Men, has by a surprizing Course of Providence led us into a most adventurous Enterprize against the French Settlements at Cape-Breton, and their exceeding strong City of Louisbourg, for warlike Power the Pride and Terror of these northern Seas; and by a wondrous Series and happy Coincidence of various Means, deliver'd them into our Hands. And this, in a most signal Manner, is *The LORD's Doing* in the present Day; and is truly *marvellous* in every pious, yea, I may say, in every unprejudic'd and considerate Eye.

And here, I shall endeavour these two Things, as the Season allows

1. In brief lay open to View the *vast Importance* of the Place; that we may more clearly see the *Greatness* of the *Mercy* in giving it to us: And then
2. Look into the *wondrous Scenes* of Providence, and see some of the various and surprizing *Steps* that led to the happy *Acquisition*.

I. In brief lay open to View the *vast Importance* of the Place; that we may the more clearly see the *Greatness* of the *Mercy* in giving it to us.

The *Island* belong'd originally to the *British Empire*: Was at first compriz'd in the general Name and grand Patent of *New-England* in 1620; but in the following Year set off and included

included in *Nova-Scotia* by a separate Patent ; and since, in *Nova-Scotia* comprehended in the royal Charter of the *Massachusetts Province* in 1691.

It abounds in the best of *Pit-Coal* known in *America* : And so near the Surface of the Earth and Coast of the Sea, as to be very easily dug and put into Vessels. Yea, from 1703, *Labontan* had told us of the *French Ships* loading with and carrying the same to *Gaudalupe* and *Martinico*, for the refining of Sugars, to their great Advantage. And it's commodious Harbours ; with it's happy Situation in the Centre of our Fishery, at the Entrance of the Bay and River of *Canada*, and in the Wake of all the Trade from *Europe* to the *British Colonies* on the *Main Land* of *America*, and both from them and our *West-India Islands* to *Europe* ; rendred the Place of such vast Importance---that I remember while in *England*, when we came to know the *Tory Ministry* had by the Treaty of *Utrecht* in 1713, resign'd it to the *French* ; all true-hearted *Britons* who knew the Circumstance of the *Island*, most grievously lamented the Resignation, as full of teeming Mischief to the *British Trade*, Wealth and Power, and as one of the most fatal Acts of that unhappy Ministry.

And the mischievous Consequence has since every Year been a growing Confirmation of their judicious Prospects. For the *French* well knowing the vast Advantage of their Acquisition, have built a walled City on the most convenient Port both for Trade and Fortification ;---for these *Thirty Years* been adding to it's natural and artificial Strength ; and by immense Sums and the utmost Art and Diligence, made it one of the strongest Fortresses in *America* if not in *Europe* : Such as was not like to be taken without a very powerful, skilful and resolute Army both by Sea and Land, or being starved to a Surrender. In short, it was the *Dunkirk* of *North-America*, and in some Respects of greater Importance.

For, by Means of this *Island* and Fortifications, the *French* have every Year enlarged their Fishery ; and thereby their Trade, Wealth and Shipping : Supplying their *West-India Islands*, enabling them to make Sugars cheaper, and beating us out of that gainful Trade at foreign Markets : Yea, by Fishing cheaper than we, they have more and more commanded the Trade

of

of Spain, Portugal and Italy; drawn away their Gold and Silver; and greatly diminish'd our Trade and Fishery, a principal Source both of the *British* Wealth and naval Power.

So pernicious a Settlement was this --- that for above these *Twenty Years*, it has seem'd to me, 'twere worth the while to engage in a *War* with *France*, if for nothing else but to recover this most important *Island* to the *British Empire*. Tho' a *War* was dreadful, the Necessity and Hazard seem'd every Year to encrease: The longer 'twas deferr'd, the more powerful and dangerous they grew, and the less our Hope of their being ever reduced.

Yea, from the Consideration of such a *strong Defence*, the Advantage of *Wood, Sea-Coal, Fishery* and *Free-gift Land* in this and the neighbouring *Islands*, the Settlement of *Thousands* of People on them already, and the innumerable Poor in the *Sea-Coast Towns* of *France*, ever swarming and coming over to them; --- it seems highly probable, that if the *Peace* continued much longer, there would be in a few *Years* Time such a Multitude of *French Inhabitants*, as with the growing Numbers in the bordering Continent of *Nova-Scotia* and *Canada*, with the Addition of the *Indian Nations*, would exceedingly vex and waste, yea, endanger the Conquest of our *English Colonies*.

At Length, without our seeking, and in the most critical Time, the LORD was pleas'd to leave them to precipitate a *War* upon us. An unexpected Season opens to make the dangerous Trial, if the ALMIGHTY would please to prosper us. And now all the northern Colonies, and Our's especially began to feel their destructive Power and Influence: In a few Months Time, infesting our Coasts, taking our Shipping, ruining our Fishery and Trade, destroying *Canso*, invading *Annapolis*, reducing us to Straits, and carrying our People Captive into a Place almost impregnable.

And as it was a Source of *Privateers* and *Men of War* distressing to Us; so it was also a safe Resort, both of their *West & East India Fleets*, to their great Advantage in returning Homeward.

Of such vast Importance was this *strong Port* of our Enemies; and this possess'd by one of the most enterprizing, powerful and active of Nations.

But in the Wisdom of GOD, the stronger it grew, the better in the Issue for *Us*: The *French* having built a regular City, and laid out immensely more to render it both strong and commodious, than *We* should, if the Place had been in *our* Power. Yea, it seems most likely, that if *they* had not possess'd it, there would neither have been a Battery, nor even a House in the *Port* to this Day; no more than in many fine Harbours of *Nova-Scotia*; which tho' so near the Fishery, have been neglected by us for so many Years, from the Peace of *Utrecht*. But now in a few *Weeks* Time, the sovereign GOD has pleased to give us the Fruits of these *Thirty Years* prodigious Art, Labour and Expence of our Enemies: And this by Means of so small a Number, as about *Four Thousand* Land-Men, unus'd to War, undisciplin'd, and that had never seen a Siege in their Lives. *It is the LORD's Doing! It is marvellous in our Eyes!*

II. Let us therefore look into the wondrous Scenes of Providence, and see some of the various and surprizing Steps which led to the happy Acquisition.

And these we may review under these *Two Heads---*

- I. The remarkable Steps which led to the dangerous Enterprize: And
2. The surprizing Steps succeeding us therein.

I.] The remarkable Steps of Providence which led us to the adventurous Enterprize.

I have already hinted at these *Two Particulars---*

- I. Our Enemies being left of GOD, in Opposition to all the Rules of Policy, but in too early Confidence of their sufficient Growth of Power, while engag'd with the *Queen of Hungary*, to hurry into a War with us, in the Beginning of 1744; while their trading Ships were mostly abroad, their Navy not so well prepar'd, and ours by the previous War with *Spain*, equipt and ready to employ it's Power for our Defence and their Annoyance: It seems in as happy a Juncture as we could wish for: Without which we should not have had the Advantage or Opportunity which they have opened to us.

2. The

2. The People of *Cape-Breton* early and suddenly *last Year*, seizing *Canse*, invading *Annapolis*, and *M. De Vivier* going to *France* for additional Forces by Sea and Land, to renew the Assault in the *Spring of this Year*; --were improv'd by God as a Means of rousing us up with a Sense of Danger, and of exciting our *Governour* to implore the *KING* for some naval Help: Without which it seems that *Commodore Warren* with his *Three Ships* of War had not been ordered from our *West-India Islands* to *New-England*; Tho' then, I suppose, without any special View to this important Enterprize.

3. By the *Cape-Bretoners* taking and carrying so many of our People into their *Harbour* and *City*, they were obliged to return them to us: Whereby we came to be more acquainted with their Scituation and the proper Places of landing and attacking: And at the same Time it is in the Issue happy, they were not fully aware of the prodigious Strength of the *Fortifications*, or of the great Number of *Men* within and near them; or we never had presum'd on such an Enterprize: Yea, 'tis happy that some few, who better knowing the Place, gave the more exact Accounts and spake discouraging; yet we were so set on sending, they were not regarded.

4. GOD was pleased to give *last Summer* a great *Plenty* of Provision to our *northern Colonies*; whereby we were *this Spring* prepared to supply so great an Armament: And at the same Time cut short the Crops in *Canada* and the *French West India Islands*; whereby 'twas apprehended that Those at *Cape-Breton* were considerably *straitened*, and that both the *Canada-French* and *Indians* were hindered the last Year from troubling our *inland Borders*.

5. By our Accounts of the Uneasiness of the *Switzers* There, for want of Pay and Provision; and the Call and Wants of their *East* and *West-India Fleet* in the *Fall* of the Year, and their Supplies with Men and Victuals, if not Ammunition; 'twas represented, the remaining *French* were further *weakened*; and we were the more encouraged. And 'twas further remarkable, that their *Store-Ships* from *France* in the *Fall* came so late on their Coast, and the *Winter* There set in so early and fierce, as to keep them out of their Harbour, and drive them off to *Martineco*.

6. From

6. From the sanguine Representations made by our returned Captives, of the Easiness of our taking the Place by an early Surprizal, before any Help could come, either from *Canada*, *France* or the *West-Indies*. GOD was pleased to lead our Governor, vigilant and active for our Safety and Welfare, into the Project: And early forming the Scheme; in the most timely Season, in the midst of Winter, when our Intercourse abroad was ~~broken~~ up, to move and press it on the *General Assembly*; and after, in convenient Time, on our *Neighbouring Governments*; and with wondrous Resolution, Circumspection and Assiduity to pursue the same.

7. Tho' when the Affair was first propos'd to the *General Court*, the Difficulties seem'd so great and the Expence so sinking to this poor People, that they saw no Light to venture without a powerful, previous Help from *England*; yet upon further Representations, that the Season would likely be lost for ever, &c, the Affair was unexpectedly reconsider'd: And the sovereign GOD so over-rul'd the *Absence* of divers worthy Representatives, who judg'd it too vast an Undertaking for us; that 'tis said the final Resolution for it on *Jan. 25*, was just carried but by one Majority: And even that and other Votes had been lost, if the superiour Greatness of the *Expence* had been then imagined; it soon abundantly exceeding their Expectations.

8. When the *General Court* had agreed on this great Enterprize, it is surprizing to think, with how profound a Secresy, so many Members in the Centre of so populous, observing and inquisitive a Town as this, for so many Days, kept their Consultations; 'till the various Parts of the Plan were settled, Committees chosen, and all Things ripe for enlisting Soldiers, hiring Vessels, buying Materials and Provisions: And as surprizing to see with what a general Silence all these Things were done in this City and Land; and the Army and Fleet equipt and ready to sail, while the rest of the World had scarce any Intelligence of our Preparations.

9. As soon as ever the Design was known among us, it was a marvellous Thing, that when this Province had lately lost so many Hundred Men *Perish'd* in the sad Expedition to *Carthage*, not One in Ten being alive to return; their Wives left Wi-

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dows and their Children Orphans ;---yet to see so many *likely Men*, and I conclude the most of them Owners of Lands and Houses, or Heirs of the same, and many Religious, in all our Towns, readily listing even as private Soldiers ; with the small Wages of *Twenty-five Shillings, New Tenor, a Month*, to leave their gainful Farms and Trades, as well as Parents, Wives and Children ; all as *free Volunteers*, to serve their GOD, their King and Country, in this hazardous Enterprize : Yea, more to list than the Court desired : And that so many Men of distinguish'd Figure should cheerfully offer themselves---even Four of his MAJESTY'S Council for this Province, among them the Hon. William Pepperrell, Esq; the first of the Council ; as also the Hon. Deputy-Governour Wolcott of Connecticut Colony ; and divers Others of publick Esteem and Character.

10. It was wonderful also to see, that during those *Two* usually stormy Months of *February* and *March*, the only Season for our Preparation, GOD was pleased to give us such a *constant Series of moderate and fair Weather*, as in that Time of the Year has scarce ever been known among us : So that there was hardly any Impediment to our Officers going about and enlisting, or our Soldiers in marching, or our Vessels in fitting, or our Coasters in bringing us Provision, or our Committee of War in their various Preparations, 'till all were ready to sail.

11. The extraordinary Tho't, Contrivance, Order, Management and quick Dispatch, not only of HIS EXCELLENCY, but also of our *Council of War*, seems wonderful---that Gentlemen unus'd to such Affairs, should in *Two Months Time*, think of and get ready every Thing suitable for so great and various an Armament by Sea and Land : So that nothing proper seems to have been omitted. And I have heard some express themselves with Wonder to see how Things would happen :--- Just as they wanted some Kinds of *Materials* or *Provisions*, an unexpected *Vessel* wou'd come in and bring them.

12. It was also wonderful---that tho' the *Small-Pox*, which has been so fatal and dreadful to us, came into *this Town* and *Harbour*, as our Troops were coming in both by Land and Water, and continued all the Time they were quartering and anchoring here, very few of the Officers or Soldiers having had

had it, and we were full of anxious Apprehensions ; yet it neither hindred them, nor did the dangerous Infection spread among them ; which in that critical Juncture would, after all, have wholly overthrown the Enterprize.

And now our Army of 3250 *Massachusetts* Soldiers, besides Commission Officers, with all Kinds of Stores being ready to sail from *Boston* about the 20th of *March*, in about 100 Vessels ; besides 516 *Connecticut* Soldiers more including their Officers ready at *New-London*, and 304 *New-Hampshire* Soldiers including Officers ready at *Portsmouth* ;---we had almost every gloomy Prospect to make us tremble.

For our inland Borders were now left bare of a great Part of their Strength, by the lifting of so many of their able Men *Voluntiers* in the Expedition. And if the Enterprize succeeded, the heavy Debt would almost sink us. But if, for our Offences, GOD were carrying forth a great Part of the Flower of our Country to be destroyed ; a most dismal Scene of Ruin seem'd to follow ! They were to sail above Five Hundred Miles to the Enemies Island, in a raw and stormy Time of the Year. And if the fear'd Infection had taken Place and should break out among them, especially after their Landing ; what a general Terror would seize them from the Hand of GOD which there was no resisting, and in what a miserable Case would they be ! A naval Power with Stores and disciplin'd Troops were also early expected There from *France*, to conquer *Nova-Scotia* : And after all the Labours of our unwearied Governour, to obtain some Men of War from our neighbouring Colonies and *West-India* Islands, to come and protect and help us ; our hopeful Prospects seem'd to dwindle away---and we could see no other but that, if Two Sixty Gun Ships of our Enemies, which were early expected, should arrive before we took the Place, they would soon make our Fleet and Army Captives : ---And then what would become of this Country !

So they must run the most desperate Hazards. The Hearts of many of the wisest ashore now seem'd to fail. Some repented they had voted for it, and others that they had ever promoted it. Some judg'd it best after all for every Man to go home ; and the Thotful among us were in great Perplexity.

plexity.---But yet a Wonder it was to see, that those who were venturing into the Danger, seem'd to be full of Trust in GOD and Courage. Many fill'd their Vessels with *Prayers*; and asking *Ours*, they threw themselves into the divine Protection, *in the Name of GOD they set up their Banners*, and away they failed. *Pray for us, and we'll Fight for you*---was the valiant and endearing Language wherewith they left us.

Thus have we traced some of the remarkable Steps which led to this dangerous Enterprize. We now come

2] To view some of the more surprizing Steps of Providence succeeding therein to the happy Accomplishment.

And as these are more in Number than can be reckon'd, I may here but mention a few---

1. As it was very encouraging to think how many *pious* and *prayerful* Persons were embark'd in the Cause, which we accounted the Cause of GOD and his People; it gave further Ground of Hope, to see such a *Spirit of Supplication* given to many in this Town and Land on this Occasion. For besides the solemn Days of *publick* and *general Prayer* appointed by *these three Governments*; there were *particular Days* observed in several Congregations. There were also in divers Towns *religious Societies*, some of Women as well as others of Men, who met *every Week*, more privately to pray for the Preservation and Success of their dear Countrymen: And I have been well informed of their extraordinary Fervency, Faith and Wreplings, as so many *Jacobs*, in this important Season. *Psal. cviii. 10---13.* was usually among our Petitions: As also, 'That GOD would preserve, direct and spirit our Friends; surprize and terrify our Enemies; and make them yield without much Blood-shed, and in such a Manner as the *Work* and *Glory* might appear to be *his alone*.'

2. GOD then began in a remarkable Manner to hear our Prayers: In that when so many *Vessels* sail'd from *Hence* on *March 24*, and about the same Time from *New-Hampshire* and *Connecticut*, in such a turbulent Season of the Year, thro' a Course of *Five Hundred Miles* on the Ocean; they every

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one arriv'd at *Canso*, the Place of Concourse, about *sixty Miles* on this Side *Cape-Breton*; --- *New-Hampshire* Troops on the last of *March*, *Ours* on the 4th of *April*, and *Connecticut* on the 25th; --- without the Loss of more than *One Soldier* and *Three Seamen*, and but *Fifteen sick*; and *Time enough* to meet together and refresh themselves, and get into order for their Descent at *Louisbourg*.

3. It was very remarkable; that when the 500 *Connecticut* Men were near embarking in 7 Transports at *New-London*, 'twas fear'd their *Colony Guard-Sloop* of 100 Men was not a sufficient Convoy: That their Governour *Law* sent to Governour *Green* of *Rhode-Island* for their *Colony Guard-Sloop* of 90 Men to come and join them: That this being done; when they came off *Cape-Sable* Shoar, espying a Ship making towards them, the *Rhode-Island* Sloop went to discover, and found her the *Renomee* a very nimble *French* Ship of War, of 34 Guns, 300 Sea-Men, and 50 Marines: That the Sloop being a prime Sailer and halling close to the Wind, wisely led her off from the Fleet, drew her in Chace all Day, and got clear at Night, the others failing to *Canso*: Or, Both the Guard-Sloops cou'd not have withstood her; and had the *Connecticut* Forces only their own Guard-Sloop, they wou'd have been probably ruined.

4. It was remarkable also, that GOD was pleas'd to keep our Enemies Shoar and Harbour inviron'd with Ice longer than usual: So that none of their Vessels could enter nor go forth for Intelligence, 'till our *Twenty Gun Cruizers* (which our Governour sent above a Fortnight before the Rest of the Fleet) came thither: And that some of their Vessels coming early to them, both before and after the Harbour was open, were happily intercepted and taken by Ours; whereby our Enemies within fail'd of their Supplies, and We were recruited by those without.

5. That by a most gracious, seasonable and wonderful Direction of GOD, thro' our Governour's Sollicitations the Fall before, the brave and active Commodore *Warren*, a great Friend to these Plantations, is ordered by the Government in England, to come immediately with Three Men of War from *Antego* to *Boston*: That on his Voyage hither near *Cape-Sables*, he, on April 12th, met with a *Fisherman*, who inform'd him

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of our Army's being gone to *Canso* the *Week before*: That on board the Fisherman there was *One* of the best of *Pilots*, who had got out of the Way of our Committee of War, to avoid being press'd for the Service: That tho' the *Commodore* wanted fresh Provisions and Cloaths for his Men in so cold a Climate and Season; he wisely consider'd the necessitous Case of our Army, took the Pilot, generously tack'd about, went after them, overtook them at *Canso*, to their great Joy; and instead of stopping, pass'd on to watch the Harbour of *Louisbourg*, that no Supply from *Canada*, *Martineco* or *France* might slip into it: *Without all which* a 64 Gun Ship with near 600 Men and full of Stores, had enter'd, and this great Affair had been soon defeated.

6. That the *Commodore*, by the *Fishermen*, sent his Orders for the King's Ships that should be found in these Parts, forthwith to follow him: That the Fisherman timely arriving, our *Gouverneur* immediately sent the Order to the *Eltham* a 40 Gun Ship at *Piscataqua* ready to convoy the *Mass Fleet* for *England*: And tho' she was got to Sea, yet by a Boat the Order reach'd her; and sending her Fleet into Harbour, she bore after the *Commodore*, arriv'd at *Canso* April 22, and the *Commodore* the Day after. So that our Army before they sail'd from *Canso*, had the Comfort of 4 Men of War, under God to protect and help them.

7. That tho' our *Massachusetts* and *New-Hampshire Fleet* and Army staid above three Weeks at *Canso*, within 20 Leagues of *Louisbourg*, and within Sight of their Island; yet the People *There* knew nothing of it, 'till early in the Morning April 30, when they were so surpriz'd to see us, that they had no Time to get in the fresh Provision and Force of the neighbouring Country to help them. It seems very wonderful, that none of the *French* or *Indians* near to *Canso*, should happen to see us, and give our Enemies Intelligence of us: And when our Fleet and Army were compleat and ready, the Ice went off at once; our Fleet set sail the 29th, and the Winds and Weather conspir'd to favour our Descent on the Island, on the following Day.

8. It is also remarkable, that the *French* had made no Fortification at the Place of our Landing, tho' 'tis said they design'd

it, and were preparing for it: And tho' they had 600 regular Troops, and above 1400 other Men in the City, that yet they should send no more than 150 to oppose our Landing: That God so encourag'd and help'd the few, but 100 of *Ours* who landed at first and engag'd them, as to beat them away with the Loss of *Six* or *Eight* of their Men *slain*, several *wounded*, and *Ten* taken *captive*, without the Loss of *One* of *Ours*: That thereby he struck a Terror into our Enemies: And tho' our People were so eager of Landing, they were even ready to quarrel to get into the Boats, and the Surf ran high; yet all our Army landed safely, viz. 2000 the *same* Day, and the *Rest* the *next*, i. e. *May* 1, without oversetting a Boat or losing a Man.

9. That he mov'd them to improve the Time and forthwith to march up *five Miles*, thro' a thickety, rocky, hilly, and hoggy Country, and enclose the City. That in the *Night* after *May* 2, he led some of our Soldiers, thro' strange Places to the *Storehouses* near the *Grand-Battery*, which was strongly fortified with Walls and Ditches, and at each End a very thick Bomb-proof Tower: That the Storehouses full of combustible Matter, being *set on Fire*, burnt and flash'd in a horrible Manner, and in the *Night* increas'd the Enemies Terror: That the *Wind* also bearing a prodigious black Smoak upon them, in which expecting our Army to enter, they were every Soul frightened out of it into the City: And that in the *Morning* *May* 3, but 13 of our Men observing there was neither Flag flying, nor Chimney smoaking, nor Person appearing, but the Gates open, &c. ventur'd in and took Possession.

10. That yet the Enemy aware of their fatal Error, soon after came with Forces in many *Shallowaes* to recover it: But 8 of the 13 going out of the Battery and meeting with about 8 more of our Friends, run to the Water-Side; and on the open Beach expos'd to the Cannon from the Town and Musquets from the Boats, yet so plied the Boats with Small-Arms, as damp'd and hinder'd them, 'till seeing more of our Forces coming, the Boats turn'd back to the Town again: And if they had come but *one Hour* sooner, they had regain'd the Battery before we had found it deserted. And thus this strong Fortrefs of 30 great Cannon, 28 of them 42 Pounders and 2

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18 Pounders, which might alone have maintain'd itself against all our Army, the LORD deliver'd into our Hands, without the Loss of a Man, or Shot of a Gun, and before we demanded it : Whereby he at once sav'd us both Time, Toil and Blood, and surprizingly gave us a great Power over the Harbour, as well as so many of the largest of the Enemies Cannon, with a great Number of their own Balls and 380 of their Bombs to improve against them.

11. That our Army was preserv'd from the dangerous *Infection* : And tho' being open to the Air, Fogs and Dews, upon the Melting of the Ice, in a raw Climate and Season of the Year ; having thro' their extraordinary Fatigues worn out their Choaths and Shoes, being barefoot and almost naked ; --- the Camp *Dysentery* seized many, there being 1500 down at once, which then look'd very threatening ; --- yet some of our Physicians in their Letters signified, that it look'd almost miraculous, they should so soon and generally, without Means, recover.

12. That they should be inspir'd with wondrous *Courage, Eagerness, Activity* and unfainting *Strength* : Be supported under their extraordinary and constant Toils, Fatigues and Labours, in carrying Stores, drawing Cannon over Hills and Valleys, among Rocks and thro' Morasses, up to the Knees in Mire ; and in digging Trenches, raising Batteries, firing Shot and Bombs almost incessantly both Day and Night against the City : And that GOD so speedily taught their Hands to war, and their Fingers to fight, as presently to throw them with great Exactness, and do continual Execution among our Enemies ; dismounting their Cannon, beating down their Houses, Gates, Walls, Flankers, and greatly distressing them.

13. That when the *Vigilant*, a new 64 GunShip from France with near 600 Men, and great Quantities of Arms and Stores, came so near the Mouth of their Harbour and before a fair Wind, that two Hours more would have given her Entrance on May 19 ; she was happily discover'd by some of our smaller Ships, who led her along to the larger and soon made her strike : Tho' after near two Hours close Engagement in sight of the Camp ; wherein 'twas wonderful, she lost above 30 Men,

Men, and they but 5. And tho' by the Fog in the Night they lost her, yet in the Morning they happily recover'd her; to the growing Discouragement of the Befeiged, and our encreasing Strength and Benefit.

14. That tho' to shew our *Dependence* on GOD continually, he was pleas'd to suffer the barbarous *Indians*, twice to surprize and murder some of our stragling People; ---about 18 at one Time and 9 at another; yet in several *Land-Encounters* both with the *French* and the *Indians*, in divers Parts of the Island, He was pleas'd to give us the Victory: Our Scouts and Cruizers taking about 300 *Prisoners*.

15. That by Means of the extraordinary quick Dispatch of a *Messenger*, our *Governour* in *February* sent to the KING for naval Help; GOD was pleas'd to send so many *Men of War* successively, as by the 12th of *June*, with the 64 Gun Prize, and those who were there before, to amount to *Eleven*; to the sinking Fear of the Enemy, and the rising Joy of our Fleet and Army; as also to preserve a happy *Harmony* between our various *Officers*.

16. That tho' GOD was pleas'd to humble us in defeating our *Attack* in the Night after *May 26*, on their strong *Island-Fort*, when we had about 60 Men killed and drowned; yet He happily guided and with surprizing Strength, Agility and Quickness helped us to hoist up some of the heaviest *Cannon* and our largest *Mortar* on the *Light-House* Cliff of Rocks, which overlook'd that *Fort* in which they trusted to hinder our entering into their Harbour; it being built on a Rock, having thirty 28 Pounders, 7 Swivels, 2 Brafs 10 Inch Mortars, and 180 Men: And then on *June 15*, assisted in casting our *Bombs* so exactly, as after the two first, to throw in every One of the rest, and with our *Cannon* do such Execution, as quickly beat them out of this strong Hold they tho't impregnable, and frighten the *City* to a quiet *Surrender*.

17. That GOD shou'd move 'em to it on *June 16*, in that critical *Moment*, when the *Navy* and *Army* had just agreed on a general, desperate and fierce *Affault* both by *Land* and *Water*; which was like to be exceeding bloody and of doubtful Consequence:

sequence: For upon the Capitulation, when our Forces enter'd the City *June 17*, and came to view the inward State of its Fortifications; they were amazed to see their extraordinary Strength and Device, and how we had like to have lost the Limbs and Lives of a *Multitude*, if not have been all destroy'd. And that the City surrendred, when there was a great Body of *French* and *Indians* got on the *Island*, and within a *Day's* March, to molest us.

18. That in all our close and constant Assaults and Skirmishes, some of our Batteries being within *Pistol Shot* of the City, and receiving such a vast Number of *Balls* and *Bombs* almost continually by Day and by Night, we should have less than 20 slain at all our 5 Batteries, and not above 101 in all; in so raw a Climate and Season, and under such Fatigues, not loose above 30 more by *Sickness*; and of so many *Vessels* transporting and cruizing, in so many Storms in *March* and *April*, loose but *One*; tho' this a *Cruizer* of 100 Men, supposed to overset, is a grievous Loss.

19. That in the Time of the *Siege*, there were many other surprizing Events in our Favour---such as *timely Supplies* to our Army, either by Transports or Prizes, as we were near to want them---That the very *Balls* from our Enemies Cannon were of no small Service, being as fast almost as they fell, catch'd up and put into *Ours*, and return'd with Advantage---That our largest *Mortar* of 13 Inches bursting *May 25*, which greatly damp'd them; on the same Day another unsent for, of the same Dimensions and the only one at our *Castle* in *Boston-Harbour*, was, by a Tho't of our *Governour*, put on board; and went so quickly as to surprize with Joy, and play in the Place of the other on the 8th Day after; and was the same which afterwards distress'd the *Island-Battery* and bro't on the timely Surrender---That digging a *Trench* to protect our Men, and meeting a *Rock* in the Way we could not remove; just as we had left it, a *Bomb* from the Enemy came down in the most suitable Spot, and without hurting any, remov'd it for us, &c.

20. That from the Army's leaving *Canso*, *April 29*, to their landing *April 30*, and during all the *Siege*, there should be such

a continual Series of *fair Weather*, as was never known in the Place before at that Time of the Year, 'till their *entering* into the City, *June 17* ; and then the Clouds to gather Blackness and pour down Rains for *Ten Days* together : Which would have spoil'd our Batteries, fill'd our Trenches, and greatly hinder'd and disabled us !--It seem'd to close the Scenes of Wonder ! ---As if the sovereign GOD would suspend the hurtful Operations of Nature, 'till he had quite accomplish'd his *great Design*, deliver'd the Fortrefs into our Hands, and led us into a Place of Shelter.

21. In the *mean while*, it is also remarkable, that the *North-American Coasts* have been unmolested by both the *French and Spanish West-India Privateers*, 'till this great Affair was ended. And that by Means of *Du Vivier's* Project of taking *Annapolis* in the *Spring* or *Summer*, both our *French and Indian Enemies* have been all this Time diverted from our exposed *inland Borders* ; they being drawn to *Menis*, and to make a transient Show at *Annapolis* : So he was guided into his mischievous but fruitless Project, and to go even to *France*, to promote our Safety, and give us an unmolested Season for the taking of *Louisbourg*.

Lastly, That tho' our GOVERNOUR, our GENERAL COURT, the *Council of War*, the *General*, the *Commodore*, the *Officers* and *Soldiers*, both by *Land* and *Sea*, have display'd a wondrous Wisdom, Zeal, Courage, Resolution, Diligence, and unwearied Application ; yet they have the eminent Honour in receiving these from GOD, and in his employing them to atchieve and bring about such a glorious and happy *Addition* to the *British Crown* and Empire : Nor without *his numberless other Directions* wou'd all their Skill, Care, Toil and Diligence, have availed any Thing : And to HIM be therefore all the Glory. For the infinitely inferiour Brightness sparkling in them, is wholly deriv'd from HIM, both by his original and continual Influence ; like the Glitters of *Diamonds* from the Morning Sun ; when he wholly hides his Light, they vanish ; but when He shines, they display their Lustre.

And thus have we seen *this Passage of Scripture*, in a remarkable Manner *exemplified* in the *present Day*.

And

And now who can in common Reason deny a *particular Providence* in this great Affair? Who can in Reason imagine that such a *Multitude of various and contrary running Wheels*, both of *material Causes* and *spontaneous Agents*, shou'd all be made to work together, and in the midst of Thousands of Difficulties and Contingencies, in the happiest Seasons coincide, to accomplish *this GREAT EVENT*; without a SUPREAM Contriver, Mover and Director? We may a thousand Times more consistently apprehend the *most curious Engine* in the World to be made without Design, and to work without a moving Power.

Yea, Those who own not *These* to be the *Operations* of GOD, as a wise, sovereign, free and actual Ruler among Men and Elements; must not only deny the *Scriptures*, but even the very *Foundations* of all Religion, or Adoration of this supream Governour. For they must deny there is any Need, or Duty, or Wisdom, of fearing Him, or praying to Him, or hoping on Him in any Emergencies; or of acknowledging, admiring, praising, loving, or thanking Him, for the *greatest* and *most marvellous Salvations*.

But as for *Us*---In the *Name of GOD, our GOD in CHRIST*, yea in the *Name of the SON of GOD*, as supream Lord and Ruler of Heaven and Earth, of Men, Angels and Elements, we lifted up our Banners: To *Him* we looked and prayed: In *Him* we put our Trust and fought: And now, *He* has heard and prosper'd, to *Him* we will ascribe the *Praise*.

Whatever *Instruments* or *Means* He us'd, we will bless Him for them; we see them form'd, endow'd, excited by Him; we see them in his mighty and all-active Hands, deriving Strength and Guidance from Him, and employ'd continually to fulfill his Pleasure. We will own, the Work is his in the highest Sense: It was all comprehended in his sovereign View, Design and Providence; begun, carried on, accomplish'd by his all-governing Wisdom, Power and Efficacy; and the Whole together is marvellous in every serious Eye.

When the Tydings came on our *Commencement-Morning July 3*, of surrendring the City, ' we were like them that ' dream: Our Mouth was fill'd with Laughter, and our ' Tongue with Singing: Even the Heathen said, *The LORD ' hath done great Things for them*; and We---*The LORD hath ' done great Things for us, whereof we are glad*. Not unto us,

' O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy Name give Glory :
 ' Our GOD hath done whatsoever he pleased : The LORD
 ' hath been mindful of us : And we will bless the LORD,
 ' from this Time forth and for ever. Thine O LORD is the
 ' Greatness, and the Power, and the Glory, and the Victory,
 ' and the Majesty : For all that is in the Heaven and in the
 ' Earth is thine ; thine is the Kingdom O LORD, and thou
 ' art exalted as Head above all : Both Riches and Honour
 ' come of Thee, and thou reignest over all, and in thine Hand
 ' is Power and Might ; and in thine Hand it is to make Great,
 ' and to give Strength to all : Now therefore OUR GOD, we
 ' thank Thee and praise thy glorious Name. Give Thanks
 ' to the LORD, call on his Name, make known his Deeds a-
 ' mong the People : Sing unto Him, sing Psalms unto Him,
 ' talk ye of all his wondrous Works : Declare his Glory among
 ' the Heathen, his marvellous Works among all Nations.'

O that when we have *sung his Praise*, we may not ungrate-
 fully *forget his Works*, or return to *Sin* ; which is to rob Him
 of his deserved Glory and fly in the Face of our great Preser-
 ver and Benefactor : It is the vilest Degree of Ingratitude and
 provoking Baseness : It is to fight against HIM, who has been
 marvellously fighting for us, and given us a wondrous Series of
 great Salvations. Yea, this will be the dangerous Way to move
 HIM to turn *our Enemy* ; to change the Course of his slighted
 Dispensations, and give *the Place* into our Adversaries Hands a-
 gain, with a more dreadful and mischievous Increase of Power
 than ever, to punish us. And the Sins of *Drunkenness*, *Profa-
 nation of the Name and Day of GOD*, *Uncleaness*, *Injustice*, *Op-
 pression*, *Contempt of CHRIST*, and *Opposition to the Purity, Power
 and Practice of his holy Religion* ; are some of the highest and most
 dangerous Provocations and Preparatives to ruinous Judgment.

Yea, *distinguishing Appearances* of GOD to save and prosper
 us, are *distinguishing Obligations*, not only to *distinguishing De-
 grees of Joy and Praise*, but also to *distinguishing Degrees of
 Piety* : i. e. of active Gratitude and Love to GOD, of per-
 petual Contrivances and Labours to promote his Glory and
 holy Kingdom in Ourselves and Others, and a constant Life
 of Service to His Cause and People. And as the *Failure* of
 this, will not be a rendring to Him according to his signal
 Benefits, but a most *ungrateful Treatment* of Him ; *His Eyes*
 are always on us, to observe us *now*, and to judge and Re-
 compence us *Here or Hereafter*.

But

But let us rejoice, not only in *our own Salvation*, the Salvation of all our Colonies, and some of the most important Branches of the *British Trade*; --- But let our Joy rise higher, that hereby a great Support of *Antichristian Power* is taken away, and the *visible Kingdom* of CHRIST enlarged. Methinks, when the southern *Gates of Louisbourg* were opened, and our Army with their Banners marching in; *the Gates were lifted up* --- *the Gates were lifted up* --- and the KING of GLORY went in with them. Even the SON of GOD, the LORD of Hosts, the LORD strong and mighty in Battle --- having gain'd the Conquest, he rode in in Triumph and took Possession. He set up his Standard, proclaim'd his Gospel of Peace, the Glad Tidings of Salvation, open'd the Prisons, redeem'd his Captives, and began to receive his grateful Incense of pure Adorations. O that There, in Purity of Worship, Doctrine and Conversation, in the Power of his Grace and in the Glory of his Holiness, He may reign and shine to all the Islands round about, as long as the Sun and Moon endure.

And as 'twas one of the chief Disgraces of QUEEN ANNE's Reign, to resign *this Island* to the French; it is happily one of the Glories of KING GEORGE the Second's, to recover it to the *British Empire*. O that it may remain united thereto for ever, and so perpetuate the Glory. O that under the Influence of *British Liberties*, in a happy Constitution of Civil Government, and the DIVINE Care and Blessing, even *Louisbourg* itself with *Cape-Breton*, and all *Nova-Scotia*, may revive and flourish. May they have religious, wise and generous *Governours*, that may be as *nursing Fathers* to them; encourage them in Piety, Virtue and good Order, promote their Trade, and protect them in their Properties and Liberties.

Lastly, may this happy Conquest be the *dawning Earnest* of our DIVINE REDEEMER's carrying on his Triumphs thro' the *Northern Regions*; 'till He extends his Empire from the *Eastern* to the *Western Sea*, and from the *River of Canada* to the *Ends of America*. THEN from the uttermost Parts of the Earth shall be heard Songs, even GLORY to the righteous GOD: They shall lift up their Voice, they shall sing for the Majesty of the LORD, they shall cry aloud from the Sea; they shall glorify the LORD in the Woods and Valleys, on the Lakes and Rivers, in the Mountains, in the Islands: And the Heavens and the Earth shall be filled with his Glory, and echo with his Praise: A. M. E. N.

But